

Message Text

SECRET

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11

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 125780

O R 171334Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4384

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 2987

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS TO DOD FOR ISA, MR. NOYES, ADMIRAL PEET

DHAHRAN FOR GENERAL SMITH

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJECT: PENDING MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION WITH PRINCE SULTAN

REF: (A) JIDDA 2955; (B) DEPT ARMY (DALO-ISL) MESSAGE

162047Z; (C) JIDDA 2733; (D) JIDDA 2566; (E) JIDDA 2750;

(F) USMTM DTG 230603Z MAY 73; (G) USMTM DTG 260624Z

1. EMBASSY MOST GRATEFUL FOR PROMPT RESPONSE ON SAUDI TRUCK ORDER CONTAINED REFTEL (B). AMBASSADOR PLANS PRESENT THIS FAVORABLE ANSWER TO PRINCE SULTAN PERSONALLY AT APPOINTMENT WE NOW SEEKING FOR THURSDAY, JULY 19. WE WILL AT SAME TIME INFORM SULTAN OF USG POSITION ON TRANSFER OF T-33/F-86 SPARE PARTS TO PAKISTAN (STATE 122190, JIDDA 2733). WILL TAKE OCCASION ALSO DISCUSS WITH SULTAN YAR DEFENSE SITUATION AND MAEK APPROPRIATE POINTS PARA THREE STATE 138643.

2. WE WELL AWARE AND APPRECIATE EXCEPTIONAL ENDEAVORS BEING MADE IN WASHINGTON RESPOND RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE EACH OF SAUDIS' NUMEROUS REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE. GIVEN SIGNS OF KING'S CONTINUING CRITICAL ASSESSMENT OF US ATTITUDE TOWARD MIDDLE EAST QUESTION AND ITS SIGNIFI-

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CANCE FOR US-SAUDI RELATIONS, SUCH EFFORTS ARE WELL-

SPENT. PERHAPS IT HARDLY NEEDS BE SAID THAT AT MOMENT
MILITARY AFFAIRS OFFER US MOST TANGIBLE AND EFFECTIVE
MEANS FOR DEMONSTRATING VALUE OF US-SAUDI TIES. IN
ADDITION, OF COURSE, SULTAN REMINS IN OUR VIEW MOST
VIGOROUS AND DECISIVE FIGURE IN GOVT AND ONE WITH MOST
UNDERSTANDING OF REAL NATURE SAUDI ARABIA'S SECURITY
PROBLEMS AND POLICIES THAT MUST BE PURSUED TO MEET THEM,
I.E., IN MANY RESPECTS HE IS OUR BEST FREIND HERE.

3. ACCORDINGLY, BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF
AMB COULD AT FORTHCOMING MEETING WITH SULTAN CONVEY HIM
SOME FAVORABLE INFORMATION REGARDING OTHER ISSUES OUT-
STANDING. THESE INCLUDE:

A. FURTHER DETAILS WITH REGARD USG'S PLANS FOR
BRIEFING SAUDIS ON F-4'S (STATE 117562, JIDDA 2566);

B. PLANS FOR ARRIVAL AND MODUS OPERANDI MANPOWER
PLANNING AND SURVEY TEAM (USMTM MSGS DTG 230603Z MAY 73;
DTG 260624Z MAY 73).

C. USG RESPONSE TO JOINT SAUDI-USMTM SUGGESTIONS
FOR LONG-RANGE PLAN REEQUIPPING AND TRAINING OF
YAR ARMY (JIDDA 2750).

THACHER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DOD.

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NNN

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